

Ban Johnson May Have to Intervene in Boston-Texas Is Leading Host

"ALIEN OWNERSHIP" STIRS BOSTON FANS

Ban Johnson May Have to Use Diplomacy to Settle Affairs in Hub.

GRABER STARTS TROUBLE

Red Sox Will Have to Win the Championship to Keep Rooters Satisfied.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

Boston's fandom, rabid rooters for the world's champion Red Sox, are grumbling over what is known in that neck-of-the-woods as "alien ownership." Ban Johnson may have to step in and clean up the situation, unless another championship is won.

When John I. Taylor, a Bostonian, sold his club to a syndicate headed by Jimmy McInerney of Youngstown, Ohio, and Robert McCoy, of Chicago, former private secretary to Ban Johnson, trouble started at once. The new owners quickly got into squabbles with labor unions, and, for a time, were blacklisted. It required all of Johnson's diplomacy to settle that muddle.

After a year of constant trouble Joseph L. Lannin, of New York, purchased the team, and did not get long in New York, but came from Newburyport, a short distance from Boston. He had long toiled in Boston, owned property there, and was eligible to gain the favor of the fans.

Lannin Makes Good. Coming in on the heels of the battle with the Royal Rooters during the world's series of 1912, Lannin needed all his personal popularity to swing Boston back to its old support of the American League. That he was successful is well known. Gradually, assisted by a couple of winning teams, Lannin won out. The fans were with him.

Last year came difficulties over world's series tickets. Eddie Riley, a Boston boy and a holdover from the Taylor administration, was summarily discharged from his duties as traveling secretary, and general business manager of the team before the series ended. His friends are legion in the Hub, and at once it was surmised that he was the "goat" for others.

To increase the unrest of the fans, Riley was immediately snatched up by the Braves, who were then needed by the Boston National League club. The day he signed with the Braves the fans were satisfied that he had been treated unfairly.

In Come the "Allens." Then in came the "allens." Messrs. Harry Frazee and Hugh Ward. They purchased Lannin's holdings. But they persisted in making all their announcements from New York, and the Boston writers began hammering at once. They wanted to get their information at first hand. It is much as if Clark Griffith, in buying into the Washington club, lived in Cincinnati, and had no one to represent him from that city during the off-season.

One day Frazee hopped over to Boston, met the writers, bought once or twice, promised them the real thing in the way of news, and then hopped back to New York. The hammering ceased and some of the writers began smoothing over affairs.

Then For a Secretary. Along came the annual meeting of the American League and Messrs. Frazee and Ward were given the glad hand by their brother moguls and initiated into the select circle. Every Boston fan agreed that maybe he might have been wrong about them.

Out of a clear sky came the appointment of one Harry Graber, employed in the ticket office of one of Frazee's theaters in Chicago, to be the secretary.

At once the anvil chorus began again. The fans recalled the popular Hughey McInerney and Eddie Riley, former secretaries. Now the cry against the "alien" is heard all over Boston, from Fort Hill square to the Brighton stockyards. And Boston is always in earnest about such a thing.

Ban May Intervene. Ban Johnson may have to intervene between club and public before this Boston jam is wiped out. If the Red Sox get away well from the mark next spring and carry through to a successful finish, the hostility toward outside ownership may die away. But if the club fails to get going smoothly, and the Braves are on top, the American League is sure to suffer. Then Ban will have to step in and do something.

Boston fans cannot be fooled or intimidated. They endure much from their own, but they never allow outsiders to get rough. Frazee and Ward are making a poor start by not appointing some Boston man to the secretaryship of the club. Even now in the winter the rumble is spreading beyond the city. The end is not yet.

WILL MEET FULTON

Frank Moran Will Take On Western Giant in Havana Ring.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Frank Moran didn't suffer in his proposed bout by being outpointed by "Gunboat" Smith at the Clermont A. C. early in the week. The "gooner" will not take the place of the tow-haired battler of like Morgan's. The fact that Moran was showing better toward the finish of the bout than his opponent, and the general belief that "Gunboat" would have been put out in a round or two, satisfied Mike Donlin, manager for Brown, that Moran is the right man to stack against the lengthy Fulton.

Mr. Brown is now in Havana seeing to the construction of his arena. He wired Donlin yesterday that he would expect the American baseball team to be in Cuba on January 15 and that everything would be in readiness for the first fight on February 15.

Fulton has accepted terms for the long battle with Moran. He will get \$5,000 for his end, together with \$1,000 for training expenses, and will be allowed several round trip tickets.

TEXAS WILL LEAD AS TRAINING HOST

Five Major League Clubs Will Sojourn in Lone Star State in Spring.

By JOE VILA.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—John J. McGraw's oft repeated declaration that the Texas climate is superior to that of any other state for the purpose of conditioning a ball club seems to be borne out in a glance over the training selections for 1917. The Lone Star State heads the list with no less than five of the sixteen major league clubs slated to get into playing form within its boundaries.

Last season Florida held the fancy of five major league managers, but the trend is to get further away from the Atlantic seaboard and nearer to Texas.

The sixteen major league clubs will be scattered next march over five Southern and one far Western State. The Cubs will take the long jaunt westward in the spring, just as several other major league clubs have done in other years. Last spring California did not have any major league guests, though for several seasons previous to the White Sox had trained at Paso Robles. Now the Cubs will try Pasadena, making this choice in preference to returning to Florida. Last spring the Cubs were at Tampa.

Will Welcome Five. Of the Southern States Texas will welcome five major league clubs, three will go to Florida and three more to Georgia. The clubs will train in Louisiana and two in Arkansas.

Several class AA clubs will mingle with the majors in the South, but all have not decided as yet on their training locations.

The New York Giants will return to Marlin Springs, Tex., where McGraw has conditioned all his teams for the past ten years, and the Tigers go back to Waxahatchie, a short distance from Marlin, where Jennings got such good results last spring.

The other clubs to train in Texas are the St. Louis Cardinals at San Antonio, the St. Louis Browns at Palestine and the White Sox at Mineral Wells.

Georgia Has a Few. Georgia was almost deserted last spring, the New York Yankees being the only major league club to train there. Two other clubs, the Pirates and the Senators, will work out in Georgia next spring, Callahan's team at Columbus and Griffith's team at Augusta.

The Washington manager has finally concluded that Charlottesville, Virginia, where his team has trained for years past, is too far north. Other teams to train in Georgia are Jack Hendrick's Indianapolis club, at Albany, and Billy Clymer's Louisville champions at Athens.

Florida Has Three. The passing up of Florida as a training ground by the Chicago Cubs and the Robins leaves only three clubs in that State. The Braves will return to Miami, where they got into shape last spring; the Athletics will go back to Jacksonville and the Phillies to St. Petersburg.

The Louisiana entries are the Cleveland Indians, who will train as formerly at New Orleans, and the Cincinnati Reds, who go back to Shreveport.

Hot Springs, Arkansas, will again welcome the Boston Red Sox and Brooklyn will also train there, using the field formerly occupied by the Pirates.

"PRO" FOOTBALL FOR EAST Old College Stars to Play in Boston Next Fall.

BOSTON, Dec. 23.—Professional football, bringing with it a cluster of old-time stars, is due East next fall. Plans are being made here for games, and if the "pros" produce the brand of football they show in the West they probably will be seen in other big cities of the East.

The deserted ball parks, with their bleak bleachers, offer an ideal setting for the reappearance of the ancient pigskin game of some of the former favorites.

Professional football went like a prairie fire in the Middle West this year. Former All-American stars and college captains played to capacity crowds wherever they went.

In the East are even more stars of yesterday than decorate the Wild and Woolly. Many of them are pining for the discarded molehills and cleated shoes. But as yet they have made their appearance only in alumni contests, or in Boston, as members of the Battery A or in Corps Cadets, in their annual game.

Salaries of \$100 a week and more were paid in the West to stars who were called back, more perhaps by the lure of the gridiron than by the remuneration.

Jim Thorpe, the Indian all-around star, led a team known as the Canton Bulldogs this fall. On it were such brilliant performers as Soucy, of Harvard; Ghee, of Dartmouth; Costello, of Georgetown; Spears, of Dartmouth; and, former Indian star, and many others who have attained no little fame at the gridiron game.

Ernie Soucy, former Harvard crack end, back from Wisconsin, where he has been coaching, is enthusiastic over the prospect.

GIRLS ANNOUNCE GAMES. Two practice games will be held for the girls' basketball team at George Washington University the first week in January. On January 3 the Normal School team will be played at 5 o'clock, and on the following Friday at 2 o'clock Eastman will play. These will be played at Epiphany gym.

The Eastern High School Alumnae of Baltimore will be played January 13.

CHANGES SCHEDULE

Virginia Drops Three South Atlantic Basketball Teams This Year.

The University of Virginia has dropped Catholic University, Washington and Lee, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute, according to the schedule sent out from Charlottesville today. J. P. Balclay, manager of the basketball team announces the schedule as follows:

January 13, Gallaudet; 17, St. John's; 20, Randolph-Macon College; 24, Richmond College; 31, Navy, at Annapolis. February 5, West Virginia; 8, West Virginia Wesleyan; 10, Virginia Military Institute, at Lexington; 12, University of Florida; 15, Trinity, at Durham, N. C.; 19, Wake Forest (pending); 22, University of Tennessee; 24, North Carolina, at Lynchburg.

G. W. U. IS BACKING UP ATHLETIC TEAMS

Tonight's Basketball Game Will Measure Support of Various Sports.

George Washington University is backing up athletics in fine style this season. The Hatchettes have not only put through a successful season, but appear to have gotten behind the various teams in a solid body.

Tonight's basketball game between G. W. U. and Gallaudet will probably draw out a banner crowd. The Hatchettes have a capable team, which is coached by George Collier, former coach of the Washington Redskins.

Collier took hold of George Washington in mid-season last year and came through in fine style. The team had been in a slump and Collier was up against a stiff proposition. The Collier method worked such wonders in the short time in which they were in vogue that another season was decided upon with the same coach at the helm.

Was First Battle. George Washington won its first battle from the University of Maryland by 29 to 14. Considerable strength was shown in passing and shooting and the team developed scoring power as well as defensive ability.

Tonight's engagement may go against the G. W. five as Gallaudet has an unusually fast combination. Reverses will serve in no way to lessen the interest of the Hatchettes followers. Plans are under way for the track meet to be held just before inauguration.

The track squad has been training at the "Y" for about two weeks and will put in considerable practice during the holidays. The call has gone out for more men and there is a possibility that a well rounded team will be put out this season.

Hodgkins Is Active. Graduate Manager Hodgkins is busy with football correspondence, and has succeeded in scheduling three games for next year while a number are pending. Georgetown has been scheduled for Thanksgiving Day, Gallaudet for the Saturday before, and the University of West Virginia for October 6. These two new games will be attractive as they will probably be well matched with G. W.

G. W. will have a number of "old" men to choose from for its next year's eleven. All of this year's men will be back with the exception of Eckendorf, Harmon and Supplee. The management is greatly pleased at having such a strong foundation to build the 1917 squad on.

CASINO WOMEN WIN

Outrill National Capitals by Six Pins in Duckpin Match.

Mrs. Malcolm, with a total of 294 for three games, led the Casino women's duckpin quint to a victory over the National Capital fair rollers at the National Capital alleys, retrieving a one-pin defeat at the Casino several weeks ago.

Mrs. Malcolm was the most consistent performer of the match. Her games were 95, 103, and 96. Miss Thomas, of the National Capitals, had the next best set of 292, with strings 96, 90, and 106. Miss Greenwood, of the National Capitals, got the best single game of 107. The scores:

	Totals.
Mrs. Malcolm.....	95 103 96 294
Miss Ackman.....	92 83 99 265
Mrs. Eckhardt.....	80 75 83 238
Miss Bonts.....	87 82 95 264
Miss E. Eckhardt.....	80 106 84 270

NATIONAL CAPITALS.

	Totals.
Miss Adder.....	78 75 96 249
Miss Quates.....	94 75 91 260
Miss Thomas.....	96 90 106 292
Miss French.....	85 99 81 265
Miss Greenwood.....	76 78 107 261

WHITE WILL PERFORM.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Charles White is on his way to New York to fight somebody Monday afternoon. He was to meet Walter Mohr in a Christmas night, but he received word before leaving today that Mohr is sick and that Harry Piece of New York probably will be substituted.

CENTRAL FRESHMEN WIN.

Central High School freshmen took a fast and hard fought game from the Petworth Juniors' basketball team in the latter's gym yesterday, 29 to 27. Teammate work featured for the winners, and Kimbrell was the best player for the losers.

DISTRICT BOASTS MANY GOLF CLUBS

Has More Than Any City of Country in Proportion to Population, Is Estimate.

There are more clubs here fostering the ancient Scottish pastime of golf, it is believed, than in any city of America of the Capital's population. The number is five, and among their memberships are more than 1,500 who recreate on the links.

Are Leading Clubs.

Chevy Chase and Columbia are the major golf organizations. Chevy Chase has by far the largest membership and the greatest number of golfers. It is estimated that 500 members play over its course regularly during the season. Columbia probably has more golfers in proportion to its total membership than Chevy Chase, with about 350.

Washington Golf and Country Club, situated at Jewell, Va., but classed as a local institution, boasts about 300 golfers, and Bannockburn and Washington Suburban each has at least 200.

Municipal Links Lacking.

Washington is well supplied with golf clubs but lacks what many other cities have—a municipal course. A three-hole practice course is situated in Potomac Park, but is little used. In the near future, possibly within a year, work is expected to get under way on a nine-hole course, which will mean a big boost for the sport here.

Golf is a game that a great many would like to play, but cannot afford to join a club in order to have access to the links. Philadelphia, St. Louis, and in fact, nearly all prominent cities of the country, have municipal courses which are kept busy.

BOB THAYER'S Sporting Gossip

Bob Hedges is a nifty cuss, trying to horn into the National League.

The arrival of Les Darcy in the United States, accompanied by a fanfare of flutist trumpets, should serve to put some life into the game, especially among those middleweights who have not been earning much money of late. There are any number of middles in this country, but it is unlikely that more than three or four are in Darcy's class, unless his Australian record means nothing. Mike Gibbons, Jack Dillon and Billy McKee right now are the best of the lot, but "Al McCoy" is still totting the championship around on his shoulders. Why not match Darcy with "McCoy" and then give the others a crack at the title?

Washington entertained several tennis stars almost unawares last year. Willis Davis, C. M. Bull, Teddy Pell, Harold Throckmorton, and Colker Caner who made tennis history later in the summer, were here for a short spell in the spring. Norris Williams was well known, of course, and needed no introduction.

Penn's football squad is on its way to California for its contest with Oregon and it carries with it the well wishes of every Eastern lover of the game. Bob Fowlwell has done excellent work at Penn, putting life once more in a student body that sadly needed it. Whether Penn wins or not will not be known for another week, but one thing is certain—the Quakers will show Californians a fine sample of Eastern football. The long trip across the country may bother the Red and Blue a little, but hardly enough to swing the balance against them. Here's hoping they triumph.

There's an Egg riding in the six-day race, but there are many more waiting him.

Virginia will hardly be able to lay claim to the South Atlantic basketball title this season. Instead of meeting all rivals in this section, the Orange and Blue has dropped Catholic University, Washington and Lee and V. P. I. Virginia has possessed first class fives for several seasons now and it is unfortunate that the authorities at Charlottesville see fit to decline games with fives which, from their geographical position, deserve to be met, if any real title is to be decided.

There's a surprise in store for you when you see Walter Camp's All-American eleven. We've seen it, but don't dare mention it yet.

WILSON A MAGNATE

Millionaire Packer Backs Tinker in Columbus Club.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Thomas E. Wilson, president of Wilson & Co., packers, is the latest magnate to enter the ranks of organized baseball. It became known here today, Wilson is the principal backer of Joe Tinker, who has closed a deal taking over the Columbus American Association club at a price of \$65,000. All but 25 per cent of the stock will be turned over to Tinker and his backers.

The former Cub manager made a hurried trip to Columbus yesterday afternoon, and in four hours had closed the transaction through President Hickey, of the American Association.

While Wilson has always been a good fan, he has not been connected with any sporting venture before, so far as is known.

WILL PLAY TONIGHT

Western's Championship Team of Last Year Will Get Action.

Western's championship eleven of last year and the year before will show off tonight at the school in meeting this year's aggregation. The 1915 team will be headed by Raymond Peck, who is at present playing with the Penn Freshmen. Lester Peine, Richard Sargent, and John Wheelchell will also be in the line-up.

This team went through twenty games without a defeat last year. Three of the players are in the best of condition and will be able to carry the burden of opposition.

The present Western team will probably be composed of Wight, Johnston, Chamberlaine, Davidson, Jewett, Grove, Hodgkins, and Herron.

WINS AT DUCKPINS WITH A 45 SCORE

Murphy Low Man in Roll-Off of Queer Tournament Held on Southeast Alleys.

Bowlers at the Southeast alleys yesterday were knocking down pins that they wanted to stand up, which, under ordinary conditions, is not the right idea at all. These particular bowlers, however, were competing in the roll-off of a turkey tournament in which the low scores determined the winners. Six turkeys were up for competition.

G. Murphy was one of the few able to keep the ball on the alley (for every one that rolled off five pins were marked against the roller) and at the same time get few pins. Picking off the end maples repeatedly and shooting through the spots thus left vacant, Murphy turned in the lowest score of 45. He gave a clever exhibition under the circumstances.

Goddard Is Second.

Andy Goddard, the veteran, was the next best performer. His game was 47. Johnson rolled 52, Burns Demar, 53, Haynie, 54, and Beck, Jackson, and Churner were tied for the sixth place with 56 each. They will roll off tonight, when the turkeys will be awarded.

Another Queer Event.

Another unique tournament at the Royal started today. In the roll-off, which takes place next Saturday night, slips bearing the scores of the contestants will be dropped into a hat and taken out at random two at a time. The scores of each pair will be added and the highest totals resulting in this manner will determine the prize winners.

SAVANNAH WAS FIRST

Golf Started in America Down in Georgia Back in 1811.

In golf circles there has been much discussion as to when golf was first played in America, and Vanity Fair, in an article to be published in the January issue, seems to have solved the question.

William Harden, of the Georgia Historical Society, is the author of the article, in which he states that a pretty thorough search of historical records it is found that there is much to support the contention that the city of Savannah was the first town in America to boast of a properly constituted golf club.

Further on Mr. Harden's Vanity Fair is reproduced an invitation to a golf club ball which was held at the Tuxedo at Savannah on December 31, 1811. The card was made out to Miss Eliza Johnston and is today in possession, according to Mr. Harden, of a grand daughter of the very Miss Eliza Johnston to whom it was addressed.

Only Four Are Named.

Mr. Harden regrets the absence of a list of the members of the Savannah Golf Club, the only names known now being those of four managers—namely, George Woodruff, Robert Mackay, John Clegg, and James Dickson, and the treasurer, who was George Hogarth.

"It is a remarkable fact," writes Mr. Harden, "that all of these gentlemen were Scotchmen."

Played Century Ago.

"Considering all the evidence, then, it cannot be doubted that the residents of Savannah played golf over a century ago, and that, in the absence of any testimony to the contrary, Savannah can fairly claim the honor of being the first place in this country that could boast of possessing a regularly organized golf club."

LAST NIGHT'S CRACKS.

Hogan, Rosedale, 139. Friede, Alpha Beta, 137. Chaconas, King Solomon, 136. Hogan, Kentucky Reserves, 135. Robertson, Construction, 134. Beach, Commissioners, 133. Wood, Engineers, 131. Horne, Alpha Beta, 131. Shade, Harmony, 129. Bennie, Electricians, 127. Moran, Rosedale, 126. Sprucebank, Jays, 125. Warren, Malla, 124. Rebb, Engineers, 124. Watson, Hilltops, 124.

STATE WILL HAVE BASKETBALL TEAM

Erection of New Gymnasium Will Enable College to Start Floor Sport.

Maryland State College will be represented by a basketball team next season if present plans carry. Athletic Director Curley Byrd, whose success as coach of all the State athletic teams has been remarkable during the past three years, is authority for the statement.

Coach Byrd says the building program at Maryland State will include a modern plant for all indoor sports and that basketball will be a regular feature of the winter program. The State College has made rapid strides in all branches of sport in recent years due to Byrd's untiring effort and capable coaching.

Teams Successful.

Baseball, football and track teams have met with unusual success. Lacrosse has come in for its fair share of winning. The construction of a first-class track and field for outdoor sports and the erection of a modern gymnasium will do much to boost State's chances in the next year or so.

Basketball has never been a regular feature of State's athletic program. Next year a team will be put on the floor and if other athletic teams are to be taken as criterions the basketball team will not want for success.

Preparations are under way at State for the winter program. The track team is expected to rank with the best in this section this winter. There are any number of first-class athletes who have been developed by Byrd in the past three years.

Will Enter Meets.

State will enter the indoor meets at Baltimore and here during the winter and will probably send a relay team to several indoor meets in other cities. The annual track meet scheduled for May will probably be opened to all colleges in this section and a bid for South Atlantic honors will probably be made.

The success of Byrd's football team in the past two seasons has attracted the attention of larger colleges. State is considered a worthy rival and has been booked by Navy, Princeton and Virginia. It is declared the 1917 eleven will be even better than that which finished the season with a 34 to 0 win over Johns Hopkins.

MRS. BRITTON TALKS

Says Rumor of Sale of Cardinals Is "Positively Disgusting."

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—The popular winter pastime of selling the St. Louis Cardinals to mythical syndicates is finally getting on the nerve of Mrs. Helen H. Britton, and the only woman president of the two major leagues is protesting angrily.

"The Cardinals are my personal property," said Mrs. Britton, "and I do not see why outsiders so persistently meddle in my affairs. This silly talk about the many offers which I have received and of my eagerness to dispose of the club is positively disgusting. It must be stopped."

"I cannot understand why persons should circulate such false reports. When I get ready to sell the Cardinals I'll sell them, and I am not ready to sell now. It is very strange that none of the alleged syndicates seemed to purchase my club has made me an offer. If the club is to be sold I naturally would like to have a hand in it."

It seems peculiar that my club should be named continuously as about to be sold, since it is no more for sale than any other club in the major leagues. Other owners are not annoyed in this manner, so why should I be singled out?

Mrs. Britton, who spent several days in this city after the recent National League meeting, has returned to St. Louis. She has completed most of the details for the club's training trip and apparently is ready to go on with the business of furnishing National League baseball in St. Louis.

LISTS GOOD TEAMS

Maryland State Will Have Several Clever College Nines Here.

Maryland State will have several clever college baseball teams on its schedule this spring. Cornell will be the only big college nine to visit College Park in the spring, but a number of smaller colleges will be on the State schedule.

Tufts College, of Medford, Mass., which has created such an enviable reputation in baseball as well as football in recent years will come here for an early season game. Lafayette, Swarthmore, Lehigh, Boston College, Hopkins, St. John's, Gallaudet and Catholic University will also be on the State schedule.

The high cost of baseball is hitting the local colleges here. Of recent years the Northern teams visiting here have asked such large guarantees that scheduled games have been prohibitive. State is retrenching somewhat on its schedule due to the fact that baseball has become an expensive sport.

Little or no revenue is derived from the gate receipts and for this reason several teams have been turned down.

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MANAGERS IN RUSH TO SEE LES DARCY

Tex Rickard Promises to Show Australian Boxer to Newspaper Men.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Aboard the Standard Oil tanker Cushing, Les Darcy, the Australian fighter, who hopes to whip a bunch of American scrappers, waited at anchor down the bay early today for the arrival of Tex Rickard, who was scudding to him in a private tug. Darcy is expected to land on Broadway today. He made the trip to America as a stoker in the Cushing's boiler room.

Rickard was not alone in his water spring for the Antipodian fist artist who fled soldier duty in his home land as a stoker to get to the land of peace and fight with padded gloves.